

What a vile man is this liar who gives a heaven of



The human race awakens slowly. The illusions hold the mind with a powerful grip. The illusion that man was made by a master-workman who lived outside of this infinite universe, who took into his huge hands a piece of red earth and moulded it, shaped it into the beautiful form of a man, and blew into it the breath of life and man became a living soul, is one of the persistent illusions that refuses to yield ground to science. The mind of man is still in that state in

the race is slowly coming to the dawn of reason. Reverence for the priest and the so-called Holy Book is waning. That any man can talk with God is a faith fast giving away. God was once seated on a throne in the heavens, but astronomy has demonstrated that there is no place for the throne of God to rest on, for there is no heaven any more, it is all space up there where the stars twinkle and shine. No place for the throne of God up there. There is not a spot in this wide universe where there is room to set down the throne of God. Once the "throne of God" meant a heavenly court; — a place for the angels and the saints, the priests, the popes, the tyrants of the world — a House of Lords for the pure in heart to swell the praises of Almighty God forever and forever; but alas,

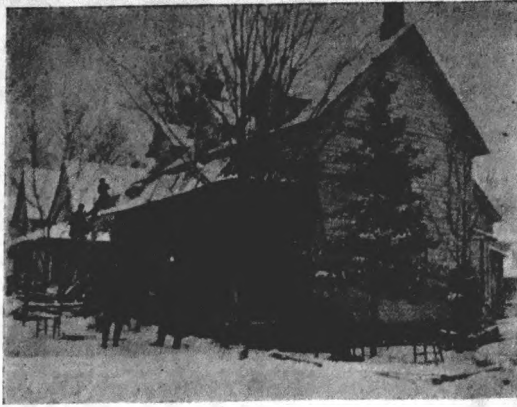
de chier.

(Continued on Page 5.)

FIRE AT LILY DALE.

A long-expected baptism of fire has finally arrived. Friday morning, December 28, at about 4:30, the people were awakened by hearing gun shots and a woman screaming and rushed out to find the air lurid with the light of a fire.

When the residents arrived on the scene, the fire had so much of a start that it was useless to think of saving either of the cottages which were then afire and what goods were in the lower part were hastily removed and efforts made to prevent the further spread of the flames. C. B. Turner immediately placed two horses at the disposal of the people and one mounted by Clayton McCarthy went in one direction while another ridden by J. F. Withers went over by Cassadaga and around by Burnham giving the alarm that "Lily Dale was burning."



THE BEEMAN COTTAGE.

Showing how wet carpets were used to stop the fire.

Dr. Hyde's cottages contained a thirty barrel cistern full of water this row would surely have gone.

As near as can be ascertained the losses are as follows:

Mrs. Scheu, one cottage burned, loss, \$800, insurance, \$500. One cottage damaged, loss on house and furniture, \$700, insurance, \$1,000. E. C. Williams, loss on furniture, \$800, insurance, \$800. Nellie Warren, loss between \$800 and \$1,000, no insurance. Mrs. Coville, loss \$1,000, insurance \$400. Miss Russell loss about \$800, supposed to be fully insured. Hearn cottage and photograph gallery, loss about \$500, no insurance. Wadsworth cottage, \$150, no insurance. The damages to the other cottages will aggregate about \$700, thus making a loss of about \$6,450. As most of the people are away, the figures can not be given accurately, but the above is a very accurate estimate.

FIRE NOTES.

Mrs. J. H. Turner of THE SUNFLOWER office was one of the bravest of the "fire ladders." She did what few men could do: went up a ladder carrying a pail of water in each hand.

J. H. Turner had his hand quite badly burned by coming in contact with the side of a house which was fully fifty feet from the fire. This shows how hot it was. He became exhausted from being overheated.

Fay Johnson was partially overcome by smoke while trying to save some furniture.

The cottage owners of Lily Dale owe a debt of gratitude to the people of Cassadaga who responded to our call for help. Had it not been for them, few cottages would have been left standing. There are so many who are incapacitated from work among the population that our effective force numbers only about twenty men, utterly inadequate to cope with such a fire. The Cassadaga people worked with a will and it is to their efforts to a great extent that we owe the comparatively light loss.

Mrs. Louisa Scheu wishes to express her personal thanks for the heroic efforts that were made to save her corner cottage.

Abel Robinson and Ross Spencer had the hottest

(Continued on Page 6.)

An Immense Fish Story.

HOW WE GOT THE BOOK CONTAINING IT.

IS IT TRUE?

The story of Jonah and the whale may be the largest fish story ever written; but one in the New Testament, like the one of Jonah, when taken as a piece of literal history follows close on the heels of its predecessor.

With a spiritual interpretation there are golden grains of truth to be gathered from either of these stories. Taken literally as historical facts no one can believe them without first discarding common sense.

Let us briefly examine the New Testament fish story. As the Gospel, wrongly supposed to have been written by Mark, was perhaps the first of the Gospels to have been written, and the other Gospels were either based upon this one or came from the same original from which the writer of the Gospel of Mark drew the foundation of his narratives, it will be well to take that book as the basis of our exegesis.

Those who have thoroughly studied the matter tell us that our Gospel of Mark is not the oldest of these Gospels. Older copies than ours were rejected by the Council which allowed ours to be accepted. It is well known that there were many Gospels; that none of these were the original written by the gentlemen whose names were attached. At best they were copies made not from the original but from other copies. Thus it was almost impossible to find out which was the later of these Gospels. They made the mistake of taking one of the later rather than an older Gospel of Mark; it was more full, hence it was thought better than the others.

In fact we learn from what seems to be good history, that when the Nicene Council in 325 undertook to find out which of all the Gospels were true, and which false, as a last resort they tried prayer. The author of "The Origin and Destiny of Man," on page 166 of that volume says:

"The manner in which this Council set about choosing the four Gospels which it wished to adopt out of the innu-merable quantity which

then existed, was as follows, according to Pappus in his Synodicon to the Council. The fathers, illuminated by the Holy Spirit, placed promiscuously under a communion table, in front of which the Council were assembled, all the Gospels which were known at the time. They then prayed devoutly to God, beseeching him 'that the inspired writings might get upon the table, while the spurious ones remained underneath.' After the prayer a miracle took place. The gospels which Gelasius ought to burn remained under the table, and the four inspired ones got upon it, and were declared to be canonical."

He further says, on pages 166-167:

"But this Council was terminated by a still greater miracle. It was agreed that in order to make the Council valid, all the fathers should sign the records. Two Bishops, however, Monius and Chrisantes, died during the Council without having signed them. The difficulty was great, for the Council was invalid without their signatures, but the fathers caused to be placed around the tombs of the bishops, and placed in them the acts of the Council, which was divided into sections. The fathers passed the night in prayer, and the next day they found that the diseased bishops had fortunately signed the records of the Council."

Here according to this early saint, are two miracles, proving our four gospels to be divine. In the first of these manifestations an unseen power selected the right gospels, providing we have the true gospels, from a promiscuous pile of spurious gospels and placed them on the table. The other manifestation seems even more wonderful than the former. These 318 bishops had bound themselves to send out no gospels without the names of each and every bishop attached attesting its genuineness; three of them had passed away without signing the statement but, in the night, while a seance was being held, these three deceased bishops came from the other world and attached their names to the gospels the same as though they were alive; thus they attested the genuineness of our gospels. I wonder if the gospel-believing haters of Spiritualism ever realize how much they owe to Spiritualism.

Let us gravitate back to the real subject; the fish story. I said there were two gospels of Mark; the first one, it is said by those who know, does not have the story of the feeding the multitude on a very small quantity of bread and fish. The second makes up for this deficiency by putting the story in twice. This shows that the editor was either careless, or his memory was sadly deficient. I will ask the readers to read both of them before pursuing this matter farther. The first is found in Mark vi. 30-44, the second in Mark viii. 1-10.

In several points these stories do not agree; and neither of them can by any possibility be literally true. The stories agree that they were "in a desert place." How Jesus managed to get five thousand men Matthew says, "besides women and children," out in a desert will remain a mystery. He attempted to get away from the multitude, but some followed him. The matter is left in a "desert" place. "besides women and children" and "apart" whether they had a "desert" and follow them. There were no railroads to carry this vast multitude out into this "desert." How were they conveyed there?

How strange it was, that not one of these five thousand men had fore-thought enough to provide a lunch box and carry with him; or that the women did not think far enough to take a cookie or doughnut for their hungry children. But it seems they did not.

These stories further agree that "the day was far spent," and that the multitude had nothing to eat. They agree that they were in a "desert place." They agree that Jesus asked, "how many loaves have ye?" The first one makes the disciples answer, "five and two fishes" while the second says, "seven loaves and two small fishes." John differs from both. He says, "five barley loaves and two small fishes." Jno. vi. 21.

The first story has five thousand "men" fed; while the second one has only four thousand "men" fed. Matthew differs from them both by saying, "they that had eaten were five thousand men besides the women and children." Matt. xix. 21.

The first story informs us that they took up twelve baskets full, while the second only knows of seven baskets full being taken up. Thus these two stories differ on almost every point.

I cannot, with present light fit a spiritual interpretation into every point, but I can come nearer doing it than I can in harmonizing the two stories with each other, or than I can harmonize the difficulties in the way of either of the stories being literally true.

In the second as given in Mark vi. Jesus was "moved with compassion toward the multitude, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd," and "he began to teach them many things." This was the way he always fed the multitude. I have no room to quote here, but if the reader will turn to the book of Mark, and read chapter i. 2, 22, ii. 2, vi. 2, 6, x. 1, also Matt. v. 1, 2, and many other passages he will find that Jesus always fed the multitude on his teaching. As the shepherd feeds his flock, so Jesus taught the people, or fed them with his teachings.

He gave them no earthly bread, but divided among them the "bread of life." This bread of life or bread of heaven is frequently referred to in the sixth chapter of John. In Matt. v. 6, he calls the longing after righteousness, hungering and thirsting. The promise is, such shall be filled. That word filled, is the same word used in both Greek and English, in Mark vi. 42, "and they did eat and were filled."

Here, if we do not try, as Dr. Adam Clark said, to make this "go on all fours," we can understand this so-called miracle. Jesus taught this shepherdless flock. The "bread of life," which he handed out of this multitude does not diminish by being handed out, but there are twelve baskets yet left; that is one basket for each of the twelve tribes of Israel.

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THE BURNED DISTRICT.

The news spread like wildfire and teams were hastily hitched and in an incredibly short space of time, they poured into the gates loaded with men. By this time three cottages were burning fiercely and the prospects of saving any of the center of camp looked exceedingly dubious. With the arrival of assistance four squads of workers were arranged. One party went to work on the Scheu cottage on the corner of First Avenue and Cleveland, one on the cottages at the rear of the burning ones, one on the cottages across the street from the fire and the fourth decided to tear down a cottage and thus stop the flames spreading towards the East.

All worked with a will. A bucket brigade was organized, the women pumping water and carrying it equally as well as the men. Carpets, comforters and everything that would hold water was placed over the exposed portions of the buildings and while some carried water, others stood on the roofs and verandas



THE WADSWORTH COTTAGE.

As it appeared after being torn down to stop the fire.

and kept the cloths wet, thus stopping the spread of the flames. Two teams were procured and holes were cut into the Wadsworth cottage, log chains attached and soon the building was drawn to one side partly torn down and snow shoveled upon the side toward the fire. Even after this, it caught fire and had to be extinguished with snow and water.

In the meantime the fire continued to spread. It started in the Northwest corner of Mrs. May Coville's cottage at 7 First Avenue. From there it spread to Mrs. Nellie Warren's, then to the Scheu Cottage at 3 First Ave. No one supposed that the corner cottage could be saved as there was but four feet space between the two buildings. But the peculiar construction of the burned building and the use of an unlimited supply of water that run down the street from the snow melted by the heat and the herculean efforts of some thirty men, it was done. Large carpets were drawn over the side between the burning building and the other, ladders were raised and pails of water were poured over the peak of the roof and run down keeping the carpets and the side of the house wet. Large ladders were placed against the sides of the burning building and as soon as the fire burned off the supports the wall was pushed away and the danger on the West was over.

On the East the fire spread to Miss Russell's cottage, then to the Hearn cottage and photograph gallery where it was checked by the removal of the Wadsworth cottage.

All interest now centered on the North. There a row of cottages, only ten or fifteen feet away, had been exposed to the fierce heat of five burning buildings. Fortunately there were a number of small buildings, sheds and such like, most of them low, that could be torn down or rolled away. Then the fact that most of the backs of these cottages were lean-tos, made it possible to put carpets on them, which were kept wet. The wood was charred so badly in many places that a finger could be pushed through it, and they caught fire a number of times, even burning good sized holes in the sides, yet the flames were successfully fought; but had it not been for the fact that one of

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REVEALED BY THE STARS.

Lifting the Veil of the Future.

Written for The Sunflower By Prof. F. F. Neitzel.

The following predictions which are based upon the science of Astrology, which is as old as the stars. Astrology, this sublime and dignified science, is the queen and mistress of all sciences; older than all the knowledge of the world, it is the key to all that is, has been, or ever will be. Astrology will be the leading science of the future and be recognized by millions who have denounced it as a sham and delusion, for by it, the secrets of life can be revealed, whether in the hoary past or in the veiled future.

Why is it that some people are fortunate and others unfortunate? There must be a cause for it, for without a cause there can be no effect. That there is a cause for everything, whether it is a shower of rain, a noted event or a war, there can be no doubt.

At the time of the war of the United States with Spain, the evil planet Saturn was in conjunction with Uranus in Sagittarius, the sign which rules Spain, and in opposition to Neptune in Gemini, the sign ruling the United States; this was an evil aspect, which caused the war with Spain.

At present Uranus and Jupiter are in Sagittarius, the sign of religion, reform, war, etc., thus exciting the laboring classes to revolutions, strikes and other changes along with great excitement during the Presidential election.

Jupiter, the ruler of the Republican party, is in Sagittarius, its own house, and Saturn, ruler of the democrats is in Capricorn, its own house, shows that both planets are strong at the present time; but Jupiter is stronger than Saturn, and is in favor of the Republicans. Mr. McKinley will be our next president and in 1904 the democrats will have a chance.

In 1908 and 1912 the socialist and labor parties will be the ruling power over the world, causing great changes in the present government and religious affairs. In 1905, Uranus will be in direct opposition to Neptune, the mysterious spiritual planet.

The influence of these two planets will cause tidal waves, earthquakes and a great change in religious, social and political affairs all over the civilized world. The present religion will undergo a radical change, it will become a universal religion, it will be brought about through the phenomena of Spiritualism and the occult sciences.

In 1912 the great occult planet Uranus will enter its own house, the sign of Aquarius. The nature of this sign and Uranus is favorable to the laboring classes. The sign of Aquarius will thus take the place of the sign Pisces, ruled by Jupiter, this latter sign having ruled for the last 2000 years, under the power of Jupiter. The nature of Uranus is to tear down to build up better and its influence causes reform and great changes in social, religious and political affairs. The year 1912 may be reckoned as the beginning of the sub-cycle Millennium, the sign Aquarius ruling 1000 years.

The end of the year 1900 will open up the prophetic events which Daniel told us was to precede the coming of Christ. But as "no man knoweth the hour" of Christ's coming, we can only refer to the year as nearly as possible. Christ came nearly 2000 years ago, but now the time is close upon us for another great reformer.

The great conjunction of the planets upon December 3rd 1899, greatly excited the world, for it was feared that so many planets conjoined on one side of the sun, and the earth on the other, might produce mighty internal disturbances, great earthquakes, etc., as this position has never hitherto been known.

According to the Occult Science of Astrology, the conjunction of the planets signifies the coming of a great world reformer in the United States, who will make his appearance within the next few years.

The world reformer will be a Spiritualist. The spiritual perception of this man and his understanding of cause and effect will be so clear, so irresistibly correct and perfect, that he will make clear in plain every day language what is now veiled in so many arbitrary words of no

meaning and by radiating such soul-force as will almost instantly open the understanding of his hearers.

He will be the herald of the dawn of the reconstruction of society, and the establishment of celestial government on earth. He shall become known as the divine messenger through whom cometh heaven's mandates unto the people.

The second coming of Christ has been prophesied from many sources, but Christ himself will not appear, it is the Christ within one's self, which will be brought about through the work of the great world reformer aided by favorable planetary influences.

There are many more wonderful things written in the stars but only a little at a time can be given to the public.

NOTE: This article has been in our hands for some time, but has not been used on account of lack of space. The calculations were therefore made before any of the dates mentioned.—Ed.

AN INSPIRATIONAL WRITING.

By MARY E. CLARK.

In explaining the passing out of Earth life into spiritual, so that the physical understanding may grasp the knowledge as a science it must be handed down to the Earth mortal through the instrumentality of some one already in spirit life.

As you live here so it shall be in the hereafter, to this extent. God giveth of his talent to all and according to their work shall He know them. If we cultivate an aspiring wisdom and ambition in Earth life so accurate and build up for ourselves that which will not rust or mold or that which none can take from us; it will be wisdom not only necessary for a successful career in Earth life, but will enable us to go into the spirit world with the foundation laid to build up under God's teaching, the spiritual knowledge.

Although the Earth or physical education really affords us no material use in the spirit world only as we are chosen by the Divine Father to separate some part of His Divine kingdom, if anyone after passing into the spirit life is allowed to return to do that in the spiritual way which they excelled in while in Earth life, it is through some medium whom God has Divinely given the ability to receive it in a known way that he or she is capable to reproduce to the physical eyes of Earth friends that which was their vocation in Earth life.

To a trance medium, as the physical body gives up its control to the spirit, the strength of the physical mind is relieved from any duty and lays dormant and is unconscious until the spirit has finished his or her portion of the power and ability to show what may be returned of earthly education and also what they have acquired by work or gifts from higher powers.

There are mediators, teachers and missionaries in every sphere in heaven. Don't, my dear friends, try to convince yourselves or others that heaven is all one chaotic state for that is not right. There are as many degrees of spirit in the spirit world as among Earth mortals. It is not every one in the spirit world that can obtain the position of guide or control to an Earthly medium, although any may be privileged to return to their friends to make themselves known and deliver messages, yet many of them may have obtained very few of spiritual advantages, not having been given the gifts that many have, or endowed with the knowledge of the future.

When this is given to the medium, it is that gift of the prophetic foretelling or of gift of finer instinct of magnetism; that which would enable the medium to give psychometrical readings or to produce magnetism combined with spirit power to do magnetic healing or to give to the eyes and ears of skeptical people the pleasure of seeing or listening to the spirit controlling the physical, that which the spirit excelled in when in Earth life. The Earth and physical need much, the spiritual hath much and the Divine Power giveth it all.

Christmas.

A. D. Haines.

The Christmas day again is here, The one glad day of all the year, And from your busy work you pause, To pay respect to Santa Claus. And in your joy you all are quick To pay due honor to St. Nick. I love to see you in your joys, But I've come here to honor boys.

And boys are very funny things, That go on legs and have no wings; And to describe I never can, A thing between a babe and man. He only has one suit of clothes, And shoes that often show his toes, His clothes are seldom known to fit, He'd be a subject for a wit.

His coat and pants are made so strong, With legs and arms two sizes long. The color of a grayish sort, Before worn and two sizes short. His sister many colors wear, Dressed like a doll I do declare; No wonder she looks clean and sweet Her clothing is so very neat.

With his grey clothes he is content, His mind on other things is bent. He never has to primp for style, But he keeps growing all the while. Never knows of hoops or bustle, Stylish things with which girls tussle; He'd be in a hideous plight, With shoulders puffed way out of sight.

But in boy's fun he's in a whirl, And always glad he's not a girl; So many boys are in the race, To my bill-boys I give this space. I do delight to honor them, And sometimes dip a flowing pen, For in my round I've forty score, Each time I come I'm adding more.

When a boy comes up to join my class, I sometimes scan him with a glass; Reflect a light into his eye, To see if honor I can spy. And some are rich and some are poor, But of a job they are quite sure. Each boy soon learns it is the rule, To only work just after school.

When we start out to do our work, But few there are who try to shirk, For work to them is more than play, If it affords a little pay. I sometimes send a boy alone, In this way best is honor shone. And sometimes we his trail retrace, Sometimes the boy is in disgrace.

Poor boy, he's sadly in disgrace, Regret is showing on his face, I take this time his way to mend, And oftentimes make that boy a friend. I place high honor as his aim, And trickery in a place of shame, I try to make him understand, That honesty with honor crowns a man.

We oftentimes stop along the way, "To catch our breath" I sometimes say, Before we take our onward start, I've tried some lesson to impart. I urge them all to go to school, To never be a village fool, I stimulate them all I can, To help a boy to be a man.

Then on we go, my bills they pass, But soon they have outgrown my class, And younger boys can fill the bill, And in comes Guy and Fred and Will. And years roll on, but weeks they seem, An old man's form is in my dream, His hair like snow, a wicked face, Returns again to see this place.

I see him wandering through the streets, He knows no living soul he meets, He thought the scenes would make him glad Alas! forgotten makes him sad. But soon he meets a stalworth man, Who kindly takes him by the hand, His cup of joy begins to fill, As up comes Guy and Fred and Will.

A kind reception is at hand, The boy that was is now a man. The men that were, are very old, The boys the place of honor hold. It fills the old man's heart with joy, As he beholds a farmer boy, They scarce can for the other wait, Each has a story to relate.

They call to mind the little glass, The day they come to join my class, Reflecting light into the eye To see if honor I could spy. We knew the spots along the way, We stopped for breath you used to say. You urged us all to go to school, To never be the village fool.

They call to mind the very place Where some small boy was in disgrace; You pointed honor as his aim, Regretted his lack of shame. Disgrace was burning on his face, Another boy should fill his place. Disgraced and left was not the plan, To help a boy to be a man.

The boy was kept to fill his place, A bright hope gleaming in his face; Today he takes me by the hand, He bears the honor of a man. The old man homeward turns to go, This one glad truth they make him know, And saying thus they grasp his hand; "Sir, you helped me to be a man."

Somehow tears will overflow; He planted tears and let them grow, But they are only tears of joy, The seed was kindness to a boy. My story now has reached the end, I lay aside a flowing pen, Methinks I hear a boy repeat: "O, give me something good to eat."

Well come up boys and have your fill, I love your happy hearts to thrill, I count it first as earthly joys, To thus show honor to my boys. And boys when you are grown to men, I pray you kindness to extend; Try to adopt some worthy plan, To help a boy to be a man.

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EAST
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This department is conducted to assist our public workers to keep in touch with each other and with the people. Send us notice of your engagements or any other items of interest. Secretaries of societies are requested to send short reports of their work. Full name and address must accompany every article intended for publication.

CORRESPONDENTS will please remember that THE SUNFLOWER goes to press and is mailed the day it is dated. In order to ensure insertion communications should reach us two days in advance and if of any length, earlier than that.

F. Corden White goes to Columbus, O. for January.

The fire at Lily Dale took so much of our space that many items are crowded out of this issue.

We acknowledge with thanks a package of holly and mistletoe from Mrs. Nellie Warren, Tallapoosa, Ga.

D. B. Jimerson's engagement at Rochester, N. Y., has been postponed until the week of January 7. He will be at 35 Comfort street.

We have received a number of letters commenting on the improved appearance and size of THE SUNFLOWER. We thank our friends for their kind words, and hope that we will continue to make an interesting paper. The increased size makes THE SUNFLOWER one of the largest of the Spiritualist papers.

Twentieth Century exercises will be held by the Minnesota State Spiritualist Association at the Unitarian Church, corner Mary Place and Eighth street, Minneapolis. Among those who will take part are G. W. Kates, Zaida B. Kates, J. F. Raymond, Mrs. C. D. Pruden, Mrs. Carrie Tryon, Mrs. S. M. Lowell, Mrs. Anna Shaft, Mrs. A. Talcott, J. S. Maxwell, and other officers of the State Association. Mrs. Jos. P. Whitwell, W. J. Erwood, and all other local talent, has been invited.

The Progressive Spiritual Society, Grand Army hall, South and East Diamond streets, Allegheny, Pa., is constantly growing, and the future is very promising indeed. Geo. C. Day is the speaker, and Mrs. M. C. Cullen is the singer. THE SUNFLOWER is a great favorite at the meetings.

The First Association of Spiritualists, of Philadelphia, Pa., will hold Twentieth Century services at Casino Hall, December 31. All Spiritualists in Philadelphia have been invited to participate in the exercises. The address will be delivered by Dr. Ravlin, who is serving his second year as pastor of the society.

The fifth excursion to Florida visiting Lake Helen camp and other points of interest, will leave New York City January 11, the sixth and last excursion will leave January 25. The last excursion will be personally conducted by H. A. Budington, 91 Sherman Street, Springfield, Mass. Write him, enclosing 4 cents stamps, for full particulars.

Since the close of the last camp season, Oscar A. Edgerly has filled engagements in the following named places: September in Elyria, Ohio; October, in Cleveland and Lima, Ohio; November, in Columbus, Ohio, and during December filled an engagement in Toledo, Ohio. For January and February, 1901, Mr. Edgerly is engaged to lecture and give tests in Lima, Ohio; for March he has been secured to fill a return engagement at Toledo, Ohio. At present he is open for engagement for April and May. Will be pleased to hear from societies who may desire to employ trance speakers and test mediums for those months. O. A. Edgerly, home address, 42 Smith St., Lynn, Mass.

The November number of *The Commercial Stamp Trade Journal*, the official paper of the Rubber stamp trade has a long article concerning Mr. B. B. Hill. It is not generally known among the Spiritualists that Mr. Hill was the inventor of the self-inking rubber stamp mounts and that his invention has been the most popular and lasting kind of stamp mounts that have been manufactured. He has an extensive manufactory in Philadelphia where they are made at the rate of several hundred thousand per year and shipped all over the world.

Chicago, December 20, 1900. The Members of the Class in Psychosophy of 1899-1900, who passed the necessary examination, in the School of Psychosophy of The Church of the Soul, met at the residence of the teacher and founder of the School, Mrs. Cora L. V. Richmond, last Tuesday evening, when the "Stu-

dent's Certificates" of the School was conferred upon them. It was a very pleasant and joyful reunion. After the services of conferring the Certificates—twenty-four in number—by the teacher, through Mrs. Richmond, those present partook of a bountiful collation, prepared by the hostess, and enjoyed a most delightful time until the hour of departure. After the students have passed through all the departments of the School, four in number, and attained the required excellence, Teachers' Certificates will be conferred upon them.

An Interesting Letter From Tallapoosa, Ga.

I am thinking today of you and many of my Northern friends, and noting the contrast in the observance of Christmas day between the two places and not only that, but the difference in the temperature. Here it seems like the first of October in New York, the glass registers about 65°, a perfect day. Nearly half the leaves are yet on the trees, much evergreen in sight such as long leaf pines and running vines.

I enjoyed a carriage ride today across the state into Alabama. People are picking cotton, plowing and at various work in shirt waists and shirt sleeves. The boys are having independence in true Fourth of July style, firing guns and can non crackers, in fact, they commenced last Friday night and will keep it up until New Years, unless pocket money runs out sooner, so we are in the midst of a continuous celebration especially here in the city. All of the fifty-eight stores were open till noon and some all day. No saloons here—just moonshine whiskey, grape brandy and wine on the sly.

Every boy with a gun and dog are out hunting. Rabbits, quails and grey squirrels will be found in the markets tomorrow for about ten cents per pair, undressed.

This city of Tallapoosa is called a Northern city under Southern sky, the climate is universally conceded to be the finest this side of California for health and pleasure. In the winter it is a happy medium between the cold of the north and the warm, heavy, enervating climate of Florida. The air is laden with the odors of the pine trees and it is said that there are more days of sunshine here than in any other part of the United States.

opinion of our little party—seven in all, Daleites, including our good friend Mr. Smith, who drove through, eight hundred and fifty-seven miles in six weeks. He has traveled extensively in this country and agrees with us that this is a delightful place to winter. The many Northerners here tell us that the climate is just as delightful in the summer as the winter.

The walks and drives are picturesque and strange to Northern eyes. The top layer of the soil is a mixture of gravel and red loam, which forms a macadam, hard and smooth. Bicycling is good and there are a great variety of wheels and go-carts of all kinds. First and foremost is the standard mule, four footed, two on the ground and two in the air. It is not uncommon to see a negro with a pair of mules and cart, with four bales of cotton on, to sell to the merchants. It is worth ten cents per pound or fifty dollars per bale. Cotton used to sell at 6 cents a pound then there was no money in it. Now this city is subscribing fifty thousand dollars for a new cotton mill to be in operation for the next crop. The Big Iron Furnace is now leased by New York parties and will run to its full capacity. The city glass works now employ about forty hands. Mr. H. E. Eder of New York City has the big Wahneta Hotel (formerly Lithia) costing seventy-five thousand dollars which is well patronized, the famous Lithia and Chalybeate spring—free to all—is a great drawing card.

A portion of our party attended the M. E. Church's Christmas tree—not unlike our northern churches, except, no demonstration of applause of any kind, no matter how fine the number was rendered, which was quite a restraint upon our party.

Wishing all and THE SUNFLOWER a happy and successful New Year, from all your friends

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Mr. Longley hears the music in the air around him. He familiarizes himself with it in this manner, then hums it over and it is put on paper. Every Spiritualist should have some of his music as an illustration of mediumistic possibilities.



Spirit Message Department

CONDUCTED BY

F. Corden White.

Eliza Monroe.

I reach out to my dear son and husband in Cincinnati, O. and know they will be glad to receive a word from me. So many of the dear ones are here with me. Uncle Tom Walker and my niece Mary, send their love. Ed. Weglin wants Victor to go on as he has made plans for 1901 and it will be all right. We are using what force we can to come to you at home and open the doors between the two worlds. We are using all our time in improving all conditions of ourselves to give you all a welcome into this life. To my son, G. F. Monroe, Cincinnati, O.

Ella Simms.

I want to reach my dear father, Cyrus Simms, of Hannibal, Mo. I know how sad this season of the year is to him and to cheer him up is my desire, that he may know I have not forgotten him. From my spiritual home I come to bring a ray of light to my dear ones on the earth plane. There is no suffering now and I am going to ever be near my dear ones.

Lydia and David Hese.

We want to reach our children F. W. and Lena Simms, at Rochester, N. Y.

We find this door open to us and know that we can reach them at this time. Their desire is to know that we have not forgotten them. We trust the New Year will bring to them brighter returns than in the year just closed. To us it is a pleasure to manifest in this way and give an expression of love and sympathy to start the New Year. George and Albert Skinner join us in these greetings to you.

Mrs. Polly Ensign Mergester.

I want to reach my son John and give him a word to let him realize that mother can see and understand the conditions of the earth and spirit life. Your grand pa, John Ensign, is with me. I see Henry and Caroline Parsons and they want to be remembered to Jennie and John. We can understand your desire and know some day you will gain the point you desire in these matters but it is a gradual unfolding as we understand and at last all find its truth.

Sarah Ann Terrifield

This is the first time I have tried to reach my dear ones in this way yet I knew of this life beyond, before the change came to me, and many were the dear ones who were ready to receive me in this life. I look back upon the experiences of earth as a school to unfold our own spiritual natures and to prepare ourselves for the greater life beyond. All should try to understand before they come to this life.

VERIFICATIONS.

I read with surprise a message from my sister, Alice Hill in THE SUNFLOWER of December 1st, which in particulars and names is all correct. I thank Mr. White for the message and Mr. Bach for publication.

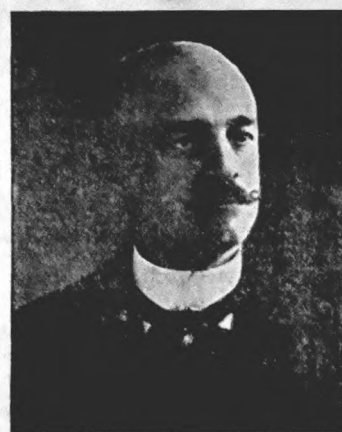
ALBERT N. HILL

Buffalo, N. Y.

The message published in THE SUNFLOWER of September 15, from David and Martha Benson is correct in every particular. The names mentioned are people that once lived at Lyndonville, N. Y.

F. W. HANDY

Lyndonville, N. Y.



C. Walter Lynn,

THE CELEBRATED

MENTAL PHYSICIAN

AND

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BUFFALO ITEMS.

Campbell Brothers are located at 507 Niagara street for the winter.

J. W. Dennis of 120 Normal Ave., will give to Spiritualists all information obtainable, that will write him, concerning the mediums that are now here or that may come here during our pan-American show, or will give information in regard to the exposition if ten cents in stamps is enclosed to defray postage and car fare.

Fake mediums stand a very poor show in Buffalo. There are none here at present, and I would advise them to keep away.

The First Spiritual church, Moses Hull pastor, have full houses twice a day on Sunday. Moses Hull is a power on the Spiritual rostrum.

The Old Buffalo Spiritual Church Society can be safely rated as the healthiest, most flourishing, and the best conducted society in Buffalo. President E. J. Chase is a thorough worker, and has, by his hard work, aided by his wife, as platform test medium brought this society up to its present good condition, with a

J. W. Dennis lectured for the Buffalo Spiritual church, and also for the Buffalo Psychic Society within the last two weeks.

Mrs. Mattie E. Hull is the hardest worker in our ranks, and her Christmas presents reach far and wide. Mattie is a sort of a ministering angel to many a weary soul.

Mrs. Mattie Hull's Lyceum Christmas festival and entertainment given at the temple on the evening of the 26th, was a grand affair to the little ones under her charge. Who will or who can fill Mattie Hull's place when she is gone? Many a little heart will ache at the parting.

NEW DEPARTURE! One Month Free!

Dr. A. B. Spurgeon, of Detroit, also proprietor of Blood City Sanatorium, is coming to your town, where he will remain for one day only, to give the sick an opportunity to consult him that cannot see him at his Sanatorium. The Doctor has no more faith in the experience he has had in treating chronic diseases than he will give one month's treatment and medicine free. Also Free Surgical Operations to all those that are too poor to pay.

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Remember, one month will be absolutely free. Surgery, surgical operations and the benefit of all our skill to all who are too poor to pay. Our method of treatment, embrace all that is known by all the schools, with the aid of electricity that most wonderful of all agents in Paralysis, Loss of Power, Rheumatism, and all diseases of the nervous system, to name a few, no office is always crowded. N. B. Cancer, Tumors, Blood and Skin Diseases cured by a new system. Please cured in from 10 to 30 days without the knife. Female and private diseases of all forms treated successfully. Many patients that cannot be treated at home can be cured at our Sanatorium, which is in charge of the best of medical skill under the Doctor's direction. Terms for board and treatment the lowest of any Sanatorium or Hospital in the United States.

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MRS. J. C. HOWARD,

Clinton, N. C., Feb. 1st, 1900.

Dear Dr. Loucks—I can truly say that your treatment cured me when everything else failed. I know I would not have been alive if it hadn't been for your treatment. I can say that and tell the truth. I feel that I cannot do enough for what you have done for me. I am ever your friend.

MRS. DAVID CLIFTON,

Clinton, N. C., Oct. 10, 1899.

Mrs. Lottie M. Farrington says: Dear Dr. Loucks, God bless you and prosper you. I cannot find words to express my gratitude for what you have done for me. I am ever your friend.

MRS. J. A. LOUCKS,

Clinton, N. C., Feb. 1st, 1900.

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DEATH; The Meaning and Result.

By J. K. WILSON.

This is the title of one of the most interesting books that has been published recently. It relates the experiences of the Author, who, with two friends, had been investigating Psychics, Phenomena and Spiritualism in the privacy of his own office. The experience as narrated will make a book of between 300 and 400 pages. It is an array of facts, which, if not attended by reliable witnesses, would be considered a fair tale. The phenomena described principally of clairvoyance, channeling and independent telegraphy, most of the messages being received through an ordinary telephone conversation expected by unseen hands in full light. The Author is an authority of high repute residing at Bradford, Pa. The book will be ready for delivery in December.

Price, \$1.25.

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and by direct order to the Author.

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WONDERFUL TOWER OF BABEL.

(Continued From Page 1.)

PROBABLY THE ORIGINAL.

As to the Greek manuscript, M. de Mely is not satisfied that it describes the original tower, but there is the chance that it does. The sharp differences between its measurements and those of Sir Henry Rawlinson's lead to the supposition. The one unlikely phase is that the dimensions of the original tower hardly could have come down through generation after generation, and the age of the manuscript indicates that only in this way could its figures have the stamp of authority.

Save for the Biblical account of the building of the Tower of Babel little is known of it. It has been conceded that each of the four angles of its corners had its apex pointing to a cardinal point of the compass.

This tower, according to tradition, was a sanctuary for Nebo, the special God of Babylon. Herodotus tells of it that the tabernacle at the top contained a bed which was supposed to have been occupied by Nebo as a favorite resting place. In it was a golden image of Bel of colossal size and two minor figures, also of gold. There was an immense table of gold, and everywhere were evidences of the rich tribute paid to the deities. At the base of the tower was a second shrine, with a table and two figures, all of gold.

Tradition says that this tower, through its seven stories, was colored and decorated in honor of the planets. The lower story was painted black, the hue representing Jupiter; then red for Mars; golden for the Sun; then yellow in honor of Venus; blue for Mercury; and silver for the Moon.

One of the most interesting of the inscriptions in the ruins of the rejuvenated temple was that showing that King Nebuchadnezzar had completed the work of restoration in 15 days. This is significant of the development of art in that age and also of the enormous number of men subject to the call of that monarch. For instance, in the azure blue chamber of the tower dedicated to Mercury, that effect was produced by vitrifying the brick that went into the walls.

REPORT FROM THE N. S. A. MISSIONARIES.

The outlook for our missionary work is fine. Wherever we go we find the people are ready to cooperate with us. The Spiritualists nearly all favor organization, we meet with no opposition in this respect; but there are many Spiritualists who are not doing much in the work. Such persons are usually glad to see a good flourishing society in their town, but don't care to exert themselves much to organize one. Others, many others, are anxiously waiting an opportunity to organize, and to work and usually when we get them together to listen to us, we can organize them; or if they have had a society and it has gone down, we can reorganize them.

Last week we organized and chartered a fine society at Royersford, Pa., with fifty-two members. This is the first society ever organized in that place. We left them full of true spirit of enthusiasm, the hall was filled and many had to stand at the last meeting. It was announced that hereafter meetings would be held in that hall regularly every Sunday. Without organization this was impossible, with organization it is easily done. At this place they are developing some good mediums. This new society is composed of the best people and the cause is in good hands. We shall hear more from them later on.

We are making our headquarters at Philadelphia during this month, serving the Philadelphia Association of Spiritualists on Sundays and going out to nearby town for week days. Next we go to Eagles Mere, Pa., two hundred and eighteen miles from here for three meetings, where we expect to organize a society, and then on to Laporte, Pa., for one meeting, returning to Philadelphia for a Friday night meeting, which, with our two Sunday meetings here will make nine meetings held in nine days. We are busy indeed, we sent out sixty letters in one day last week and today we have written twelve solid hours, all of which is doing good for our cause, and we are happy in this work.

There are forty towns on our list that want us to come and help them now, there is work enough in the two states allotted us—Pennsylvania and Indiana—to keep us busy for some time. All Spiritualism lacks now is sufficient missionary funds to put competent organizers in the field; enough of them to cover the

entire territory, thus setting to work the idle ones who wish to work and giving our gospel to the hungry hearts that crave it.

I hope and trust that the generous souls who are willing and anxious to help our cause, will swell the missionary fund of the N. S. A. until its board may be able to send out many missionaries that the work may progress more rapidly and that we may become a thoroughly organized body doing business in business ways. Making our efforts more effectual.

We desire to hear from every community in Pennsylvania and Indiana where a society may be formed or where our work is needed.

Mail will always be forwarded to us from our home address which is 618 Newland Ave, Jamestown, N. Y.

Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I remain,

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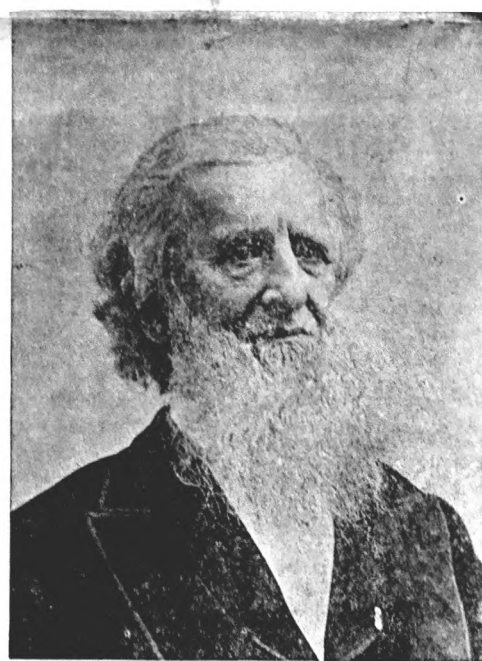
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